



02369.012211

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: J. Sanders, Jr.
Akinari TAKAGI, ET AL.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 3737
Appln. No.: 09/838,219)	
	:	
Filed: April 20, 2001)	
	:	
For: IMAGE OBSERVATION)	
APPARATUS AND SYSTEM	:	June 18, 2004

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are enclosed.

REMARKS

The listed documents were cited in a Japanese Office Action issued on a counterpart Japanese application corresponding to the above-referenced application. The Office Action was mailed on April 13, 2004. A copy of the Office Action is enclosed, together with an attached English translation of the Office Action.

English Abstracts are enclosed for the Japanese documents. In addition, the '325 and '361 documents both correspond to U.S. Patent No. 5,714,967 and the '475 document corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,229,561.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant submits that no fee is required. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency in payment to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

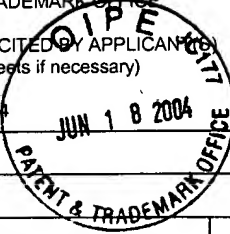
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. L. Klock', written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicant

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BLK/lmj

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (s) (Use several sheets if necessary) Submitted to the PTO: June 18, 2004		ATTY DOCKET NO. 02369.012211		APPLICATION NO. 09/838,219			
		APPLICANT <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Akinari TAKAGI, ET AL.</div>					
		FILING DATE <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">April 20, 2001</div>		GROUP <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">3737</div>			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,233,003	05/15/2001	Ono			
		6,229,561	05/08/2001	Son et al.			
		5,825,539	10/20/1998	Hoshi			
		5,719,701	02/17/1998	Sudo			
		5,714,967	02/03/1998	Okamura et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		10-111475	04/28/1998	Japan			Abstract
		09-281438	10/31/1997	Japan			Abstract
		09-166760	06/24/1997	Japan			Abstract
		08-334730	12/07/1996	Japan			Abstract
		08-211325	8/20/1996	Japan			Abstract
		07-311361	11/28/1995	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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